

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Volume 16, Issue 1

WWW.FJC.ORG

April, 2011

INSIDE FJC

Maggie Rogers Joins FJC

Maggie Rogers recently became FJC's new Grants Administrator.

Maggie received her Juris Doctor from Tulane University and currently volunteers at FEGS Health and Human Services System.

She has provided legal assistance to lowincome visual artists and musicians in New Orleans. In South Africa, Maggie also provided U.N.–sponsored legal assistance to political refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda and Zimbabwe.

Upon joining FJC Maggie said, "I'm excited to work with FJC's staff and board as we help our donors meet their philanthropic goals."

FJC's Assets Grow in 2010

We exceeded our expectations for 2010 and we'd like to give a special thanks to FJC's donors who helped make this happen!

FJC ended 2010 with about \$200 million in assets under management, an increase of over 7 percent from the previous year. Our growth was a result of contributions of cash, hedge fund interests, common and restricted stock, mutual funds and other assets.

FJC's donors recommended over \$26 million in grants last year, an increase of approximately 9% from the previous year.

Contributions to FJC were up approximately 9% from the previous year. At the same time, the number of contributions that we processed increased about 60% from the previous year! This increase is due partly to the growth of our fiscal sponsorship program and to increased contributions to donor advised funds.

We are proud of the success of FJC's programs. As always, we encourage feedback from our donors about how we can continue to have a positive impact on their philanthropic goals and on the charitable sector.

Credit Cards and Charities

According to the <u>Wall Street Journal</u> ("When a Donation is Dinged," March 26), when the major credit card companies waived their fees in response to the crisis in Japan, the Red Cross captured \$1 million in funds that would have otherwise gone to the companies. While retailers can adjust prices to cover fee expenses, charities don't have such an option. [When contributing to FJC through PayPal, the company charges 2.2% plus a 30 cents transaction fee.] While the donor can use his receipt for full credit as a tax exempt contribution, the actual contribution is reduced by that fee.

Credit card contributions can offer convenience and in many instances are tied to a rewards program. Donors should be aware, however, the actual contribution to a charity is usually less than the amount charged to the credit card.

Interesting Facts about Donor Advised Funds

- More than 152,000 account holders in 2009.
- 2009 donor-advised funds held approximately \$25.2 billion in assets.
- Annual contributions into donor advised funds were \$5.9 billion in 2009.
 - Donors recommended grants of \$6.0 billion to charities in 2009.
 - Average account size was \$152,365 in 2009.

(Source: National Philanthropic Trust)



Connecting lawyers, nonprofits, and communities

Lawyers Alliance for New York is the leading provider of business and transactional legal services for nonprofit organizations that are improving the quality of life in New York City neighborhoods. Lawyers Alliance's legal staff, which includes 13 experienced attorneys, is joined by a network of more than 1400 volunteer attorneys from over 100 law firms and corporate legal departments. In 2010, Lawyers Alliance staff and volunteers represented 600 nonprofit organizations on over 1000 different matters.

By connecting, lawyers, nonprofits and communities Lawyers Alliance helps nonprofits to develop affordable housing, stimulate economic development, and operate vital programs for children and young people, the elderly, recent immigrants, and other low-income New Yorkers.

Our nonprofit clients receive legal counsel on corporate structure and board governance, taxation and regulatory compliance, real estate, employment, intellectual property, and other business and transactional law issues that are critical to their operations.

We provide general information over the telephone on legal issues of importance to nonprofit staff and board members, lawyers, regulators and members of the general public. Call (212) 219-1800 ext. 224 and leave a message with your question. A staff member will return your call with the answer you need or a helpful referral.

Lawyers Alliance presents workshops and distributes publications on a broad range of legal topics relevant to nonprofit managers, board members, and attorneys representing nonprofit organizations. For more information on how you can support our important work, sign up for an upcoming workshop, or to learn how we can be of assistance, visit our website <u>www.lawyersalliance.org</u>.